

Urging The New York State Legislature To Pass Legislation Amending The General Municipal Law And Vehicle And Traffic Law To Authorize Ulster County To Regulate The Registration And Licensing Of Taxicabs, Limousines And Livery Vehicles

Referred to: The Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee (Chairman Briggs and Legislators Allen, Archer, Litts, Maio, Maloney, and Rodriguez)

Chairman of the Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee, Thomas J. Briggs, and Deputy Chairman James F. Maloney offer the following:

WHEREAS, currently Ulster County is home to numerous businesses that operate taxicabs, limousines and other livery vehicles that transport passengers varying distances both inside and outside Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, the provision of taxicabs, limousines and livery services is important to the economic health of the County, an important source of revenue to Ulster County's taxicabs, limousines and other livery vehicles and is a convenience to our residents; and

WHEREAS, one common service these companies provide is transport to New York City for drop off and pick up of passengers at John F. Kennedy International Airport, LaGuardia International Airport, Pennsylvania Station, Grand Central Station and the Port Authority Terminal; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County does not have a Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) to regulate the registration and licensing of taxicabs, limousines and livery vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (NYCTLC) is now enforcing a NYCTLC regulation which prohibits non-TLC licensed taxicab, limousine and livery drivers from picking up or discharging passengers in New York City unless it occurs within 24 hours of the passenger's initial pickup; and

WHEREAS, this regulation effectively prohibits non-TLC licensed taxicab, limousine and livery drivers from returning to New York City more than 24 hours after discharging passengers in order to retrieve them; and

WHEREAS, this restriction is inconvenient and costly to Ulster County residents who pre-arrange their transportation with Ulster County companies, and is a financial hardship to Ulster County taxicab, limousine and livery companies; and

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WHEREAS, the creation of an Ulster County TLC would make Ulster County eligible for reciprocity under the NYCTLC regulations and will aid in overcoming this regulatory obstacle; and

WHEREAS, in order for Ulster County to form a TLC that would be eligible for reciprocity with the NYCTLC, amendments to the New York State General Municipal Law and Vehicle and Traffic Law are necessary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby urges the New York State Senate and Assembly to act upon and pass legislation amending the New York State General Municipal Law and Vehicle and Traffic Law to authorize Ulster County to regulate the registration and licensing of taxicabs, limousines and livery vehicles,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Briggs)

Passed Committee: Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit
on April 1, 2014

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

